

Kingston Fire District  
Budget Hearing  
April 24, 2008

**Call to Order: President Elizabeth McNab called the KFD Annual Budget Hearing to order at 7:10 p.m.** Also present were wardens Lori Horton, John Oberle and Donald Cobb, Treasurer Thomas Vignali, Tax Collector Linda Mendillo, Chief Nathan Barrington and Kevin Culley from URI.

Not Present: Warden Vin Rose

The attached budget is a revised version of the preliminary budget that was submitted at the March 27, 2008 Wardens' meeting.

Chief Barrington explained that he had received bids for the exterior painting of the fire station ranging from \$7,900 to \$10,800.

A question was raised regarding the fuel line item and the continuous rise in the fuel costs. Chief Barrington stated that the number listed was the best figure that could be used at this point in time. Of course, the rising cost of fuel will affect the maintenance budget and the equipment budget in the future.

**President McNab closed the discussion of the Budget Hearing at 7:20 p.m.**

Kingston Fire District  
Wardens' Meeting  
April 24, 2008

**Call to Order: President Elizabeth McNab called the KFD Wardens' Meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.** Also present were wardens Lori Horton, John Oberle and Donald Cobb, Treasurer Thomas Vignali, Tax Collector Linda Mendillo, Chief Nathan Barrington and Kevin Culley from URI.

Not Present: Warden Vin Rose

**MOTION:** Horton made and Oberle seconded a motion to change the order of the agenda to speak about the Treasurer's Report before the Secretary's Report.

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Horton made and Oberle seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's report.

**Treasurer's Report:** For the period July 1, 2007 through April 21, 2008, revenue has exceeded expenditures by \$117,755. To date, Cumberland Farms and Pizza Pocket have not paid their annual license fee. The new SS-4 has been lettered and the total amount was \$850.00. Funds from the Decontamination account will pay for the new light bar on SS-4. JPM Construction has reimbursed the Kingston Fire District for the \$379 shortfall that was owed. The 2006 football game details have been paid; however, the football game details for 2007 have not been paid in full. The University of Rhode Island still owes \$405 for the 2007 football game details. Robert Weygand of URI has stated in writing that he has the 3 remaining invoices for the 2007 football games.

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Cobb made and Oberle seconded a motion to accept the Secretary's report for March 27, 2008 as amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Cobb made and Oberle seconded a motion to accept the Tax Collector's report.

**Tax Collector's Report:** Tax Collector Mendillo stated that final notices were sent to four taxpayers who are in arrears for last two years. It was made clear in her letter that full payment should be made by May 31, 2008. Finally, the Netbee Properties, which are the apartments located across the street from the fire station, are delinquent for their 2007 fire taxes.

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Oberle made and Horton seconded a motion to accept the URI Report.

**URI Report:** A meeting regarding the March 3, 2008 bomb scare incident recently took place. The information from the call on April 19, 2008 regarding a possible chemical spill has now been confirmed. The odors from that incident were due to some plumbing work that was being performed on campus. The renovations are continuing for Lippitt Hall and Tyler Hall. Phil Beati, Project Manager from Gilbane, will keep everyone up-to-date on the Pharmacy Enabling Project. Mr. Culley stated that a student from URI will be filming a movie on campus that will simulate World War II. Mr. Culley put the student in touch with the State Fire Marshal's office for permission to use pyrotechnics. The Institute for Scholar Athletes events will take place the last weekend in July.

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Horton made and Cobb seconded a motion to accept the Deputy Chief's report.

**Deputy Chief's Report:** Deputy Chief Notarianni stated in his report, which was read by Chief Barrington, that the completed specifications on Engine 7 will go back to Pierce very soon. Chief Barrington would like the new engine to be at KFD by January, 2009. The Deputy Chief also explained in his report that we recently borrowed a ladder truck from Warwick while our Ladder 2 had major mechanical issues repaired. For these repairs, KFD paid a \$500 deductible and the rest of the expenses will be covered by our insurance company.

**Chief's Report:** Chief Barrington stated that URI Campus Police did an excellent job with the Independence Hall bomb scare back in March. The Kingston Fire District has forwarded an invoice for \$450.00 to campus police for the malicious call that triggered this bomb scare. The Chief recently met with Bruce Hamilton, Director of the Memorial Union and Student Activities at URI, regarding events at Edwards Hall. The Chief also stated that the R.I. State Fire Marshal's office responded to his inquiry by saying that it is not the University of Rhode Island's place to change the KFD uniforms. Chief Barrington said that the 800 MHz system is on hold right now due to penetration problems in the some of the URI buildings. Currently, we are using the 400 MHz system for fire operations. During the 2008 commencement ceremonies, KFD will have an in-house detail of 6 individuals. The firefighters who fill this detail will be paid. This conference room will serve as a command post during graduation. Finally, Chief Barrington said that we will send out bids for the new Engine 7 as soon as he receives the final specifications from Pierce. The projected cost of this vehicle is approximately \$350,000.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business:**

#### **Exterior Painting**

At this time, the Wardens stated that they are just interested in repairing the dryvit on the building instead of painting the entire fire station.

### **Exterior Painting (Continued)**

Chief Barrington told the Board of Wardens that the URI land and grounds department does a significant amount of damage each year to the building with their snow plowing and lawn mowing services.

**MOTION:** Horton made and Cobb seconded a motion to table the discussion regarding exterior painting until the next meeting on May 22, 2008.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Nominating Committee**

President McNab stated that the information from the Nominating Committee will be ready for the Annual Meeting. This meeting has been advertised to take place here at the fire station. She said 15 taxpayers are needed in order to have a quorum at the Annual Meeting.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Insurance**

Horton stated that she needs to pressure Lou Saccoccio and Vern Wyman from URI regarding the specifics regarding the KFD insurance. Brad Preston's value of this building is different from the University's value. Kevin Culley stated that the State's policy has a \$100,000 deductible and that any damage to this building goes through Safety and Risk first. The Board of Wardens need someone to address the issues in Brad Preston's letter, copy attached. These issues need to be addressed in order to complete a new lease. Finally, Kevin Culley stated that there is an emergency clause in URI's insurance policy for any catastrophic loss to KFD's building.

#### **Research Park**

There is no new information regarding the Flagg Road Research Park.

#### **Uniforms**

Horton made a motion:

**MOTION:** The Wardens recognize the right of the Kingston Fire Company members to determine fire company uniform(s). We recommend that a committee be formed of stakeholders – 2 fire company members, one fire district Chief Officer, one Warden, and one URI representative to discuss possible changes in the uniform(s) and procedures to fund, procure, monitor, and ensure compliance with the Kingston Fire Company's uniform policy.

Cobb seconded this motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Tax Collector Linda Mendillo left the meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

It is expected at the May 22, 2008 meeting that the residents will have signed their Resident Contracts and present them to the Board of Wardens.

**MOTION:** Oberle made and Cobb seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_ The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Marcoux